



ORANGE COUNTY  
CLERK-RECORDER  
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

Recorded in Official Records, Orange County  
Hugh Nguyen, Clerk-Recorder



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Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk-Recorder

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

Temporary Public Art Installation outside City Hall

Check Document being Filed:

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- Other (Please fill in type):

FILED

APR 30 2024

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY: [Signature] DEPUTY

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ORANGE  
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER ON April 30, 2024

Posted for 30 days

DEPUTY Robert Uriostegui



# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

From: Community Development – Planning Division  
505 Forest Avenue Laguna Beach, California 92651

# FILED

APR 30 2024

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPUTY

(above for use by County Clerk-Recorder's Office only)

- 1. **APPLICANT:** City of Laguna Beach, 505 Forest Ave. Laguna Beach, CA 92651 (949) 497-0722
- 2. **LEAD AGENCY:** City of Laguna Beach, 505 Forest Ave. Laguna Beach, CA, 92651
- 3. **PROJECT PLANNER:** Siân Poeschl, Cultural Arts Manager (949) 497-0727
- 4. **PROJECT TITLE:** Temporary Public Art Installation outside City Hall.
- 5. **PROJECT LOCATION:** 505 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach, CA 92651 (APN: 641-261-01)
- 6. **DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:**

The three month temporary installation of a nine-foot in height by three feet in width and depth bronze sculpture titled "Epicenter" by artist Casey Parlette outside City Hall in Spring 2025.

## ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

The proposed actions are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) ("CEQA") because they do not qualify as a "project" under CEQA. Section 15378 explicitly excludes from its definition of "project" the "organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment." (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15378(b)(5).) The actions include accepting a donation for a temporary public art installation, authorizing a letter of appreciation to the donors, allocating funds for the installation, and approving the installation outside City Hall. Such actions are considered administrative activities that will not result in a physical change in the environment, and therefore are not subject to CEQA.

Even if the actions are considered a "project" subject to CEQA, they are categorically exempt pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15304(e) (Minor Alterations to Land- Minor Temporary Use). Class 4 applies because the proposed actions consist of a minor temporary use having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment and do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

Lastly, none of the exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption identified in State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply. There is no potential for cumulative impacts; there are no unusual circumstances that would have a significant impact on the environment; the actions would not negatively impact scenic resources within a duly designated scenic highway; there is no record of hazardous waste and no potential to impact historic resources would occur.

Therefore, the City Council has determined that further environmental evaluation is not required because:

- X The project is not subject to CEQA because it "*does not involve the exercise of discretionary power,*" or "*will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment,*" or, "*is not a project as defined in Section 15378 of the CEQA guidelines.*" (Sections 15060(c)(1), (2) & (3)); or,
- "*The activity is covered by the commonsense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA*" (Section 15061(b)(3)); or,
- The project is statutorily exempt, Section \_\_\_\_\_, <name> (Sections 15260-15277); or,
- The project is categorically exempt per State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15303 (Class 3 – Existing Facilities).

- 7. Was a public hearing held by the Lead Agency to consider the exemption?  
Yes X  No  If yes, the date of the public hearing was: April 9, 2024.

Siân Poeschl  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Siân Poeschl, Cultural Arts Manager

4/10/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
April 10, 2024